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Serial No.: 10/828,528
Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s)	:	Eddie F. Coney
Serial No.	:	10/828,568
Filing Date	:	April 21, 2004
Title	:	VAPOR-LIQUID CONTACT TRAYS FOR MASS TRANSFER COLUMN AND METHOD EMPLOYING SAME
Group/Art Unit	:	1724
Examiner	:	Not Yet Assigned
Confirmation No.	:	5287
Atty. Docket No.	:	506417-0820

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), the references listed below and on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents are enclosed. Submission of these references is not an admission that the references constitute prior art.

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: December 3, 2004
Signature: Lara Gurley
Printed Name: Lara Gurley

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.



Serial No.: 10/828,528
Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

U.S. PATENTS

Patent No.	Inventor(s)	Issue Date
2,711,307	Milmore	06/21/1955
3,045,989	Kittel	07/24/1962

FOREIGN PATENTS

Country	Patent No./Publication No.	Publication Date
Switzerland	253469	03/15/1948
Germany	641814	02/04/1937

OTHER REFERENCES

None.

Applicant respectfully requests that these references be made of record in the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the application.

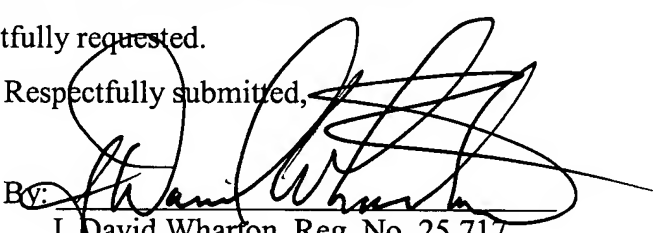
It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over the listed references.

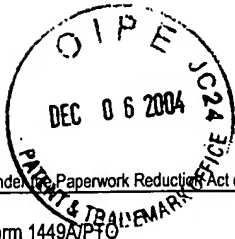
This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


J. David Wharton, Reg. No. 25,717
STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP
1201 Walnut Ste 2900
Kansas City MO 64106-2150
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number:	10/828,568
				Filing Date:	April 21, 2004
				First Named Inventor:	Eddie F. Coney
				Group Art Unit:	1724
				Examiner Name:	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number:	506417-0820

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2,711,307		Milmore	06-21-1955	
		3,045,989		Kittel	07-24-1962	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		CH	253469			03-15-1948		
		DE	641814			02-04-1937		

OTHER REFERENCES – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		None.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Serial No.: 10/828,528
Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Eddie F. Coney
Serial No. : 10/828,568
Filing Date : April 21, 2004
Title : VAPOR-LIQUID CONTACT TRAYS FOR MASS
TRANSFER COLUMN AND METHOD

Group/Art Unit : 1724
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned
Confirmation No. : 5287

Atty. Docket No. : 506417-0820

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97b
FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS AND
U.S. UNPUBLISHED APPLICATIONS**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to MPEP 609(D), Applicant respectfully requests that the pending U.S. patent application listed below be considered in the examination of the above-identified application on other than a Form PTO-1449 format to avoid the application serial number of the pending application being published on any future patents. Submission of this reference is not an admission that the reference constitutes prior art.

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: December 3, 2004
Signature: Gora Gurley
Printed Name: Gora Gurley

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.



Serial No.: 10/828,528
Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS			
Examiner's Initials	Applicant	Patent Application Publication No.	Publication Date
	Colic et al.	US 2003/0010478	1/16/ 2003
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

U.S. APPLICATIONS			
Examiner's Initials	Applicant	Application No.	Filing Date
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

J. David Wharton Reg. No. 34,017
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing with respect to the above-identified patent application are:

- 1) an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) and cited foreign patent references; and
- 2) an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b) for U.S. Patent Application Publications and U.S. Unpublished Applications.

These information disclosure statements are being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

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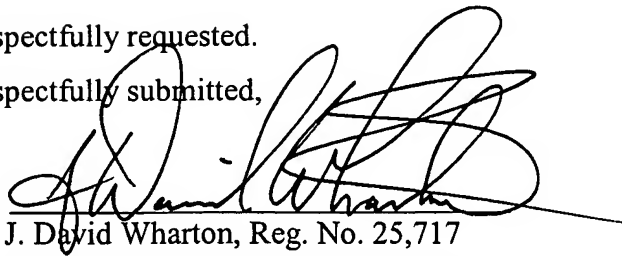
Date: December 3, 2004
Signature: Lara Gurley
Printed Name: Lara Gurley

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. David Wharton", is written over a horizontal line.

J. David Wharton, Reg. No. 25,717
STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP
1201 Walnut Ste 2900
Kansas City MO 64106-2150
Telephone: (816) 842-8600
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